

California State University Monterey Bay's Student Run Newspaper

March 13—April 2, 2008 | www.otterrealm.net

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Otter Christian Fellowship Club Focuses on Building Friendships

Elaine Schumacher, Staff Reporter

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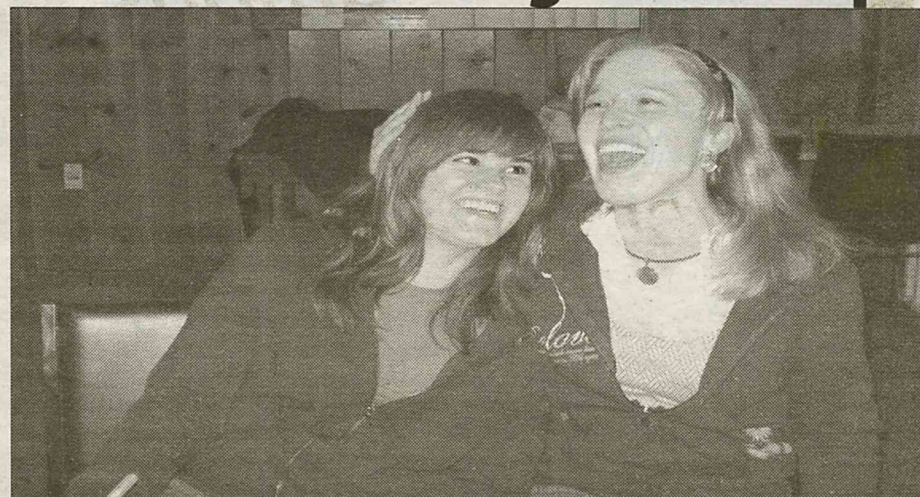
The little white church on the corner of Divarty Steet and Gen Jim Moore Blvd, building 98, comes to life when the Otter Christian Fellowship Club (OCF club) meets on Monday at 7:30 p.m.

"The Otter Christian Fellowship club is a great way to meet other students, grow spiritually and become involved on campus," said the Vice President Ricky Perez, who is also a CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Psychology major and junior. He went on to say that the meetings are a great way for people who may not be interested in attending the conventional church service. "It is a pretty open, laid back environment

and anyone can be part of the fellowship," said Perez.

The OCF was dormant for a few years until the current president, Megan Bacigallupi, a Social and Behavioral Science major and senior, had the passion to start it again in 2005. According to Bacigallupi, the best thing about the club is getting together with others in a Christian community who you can feel connected with on a spiritual level. "We want people to know that the club is not exclusive and everyone can come, hang out and form new relationships," added Bacigallupi.

The meetings begin with an ice breaking activity that gives people a chance to get acquainted. On Mar. 3 Elijah Leclair, who is a Business major and sophomore, led the Bible study. "I have always had my



OCF club President Megan Bacigallupi and club founder Kristie McMahon having fun at a meeting

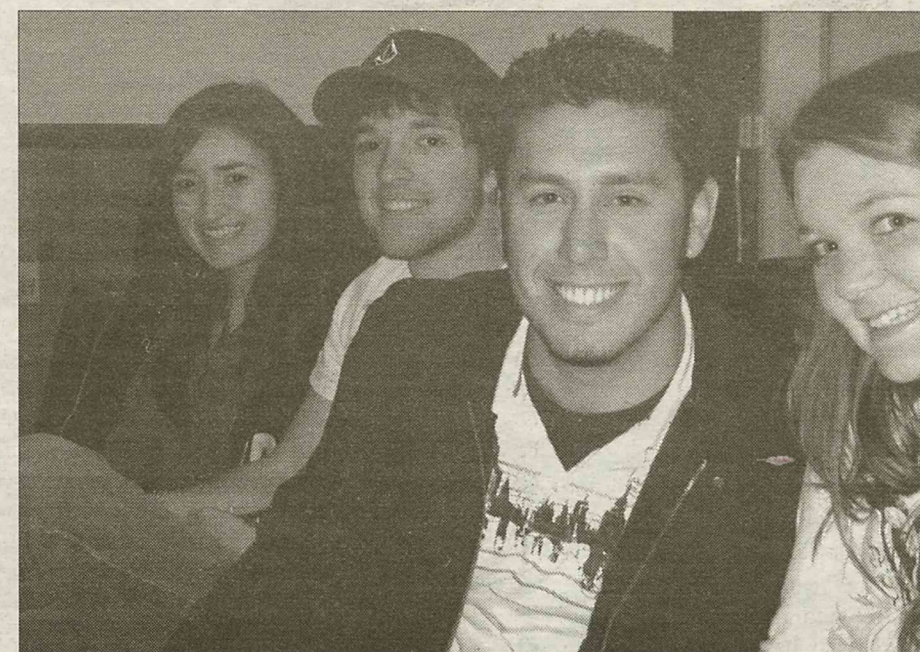
faith; I'm a pastor's kid, so the club is just a continuation of how I have always lived," said Leclair.

This semester, the club is focused on building friendships and working to collaborate with another campus club to do a community outreach project.

"Shoreline Community Church in Monterey has been helping with the

technical resources," said Chris Taylor, director of network services for CSUMB.

Following the meetings, refreshments and snacks are served. If interested in becoming a member, contact Megan Bacigallupi, Ricardo Perez or Chris Taylor on First Class and receive information about upcoming events.



Students gather together at an OCF meeting.

PHOTOS BY ELAINE SCHUMACHER

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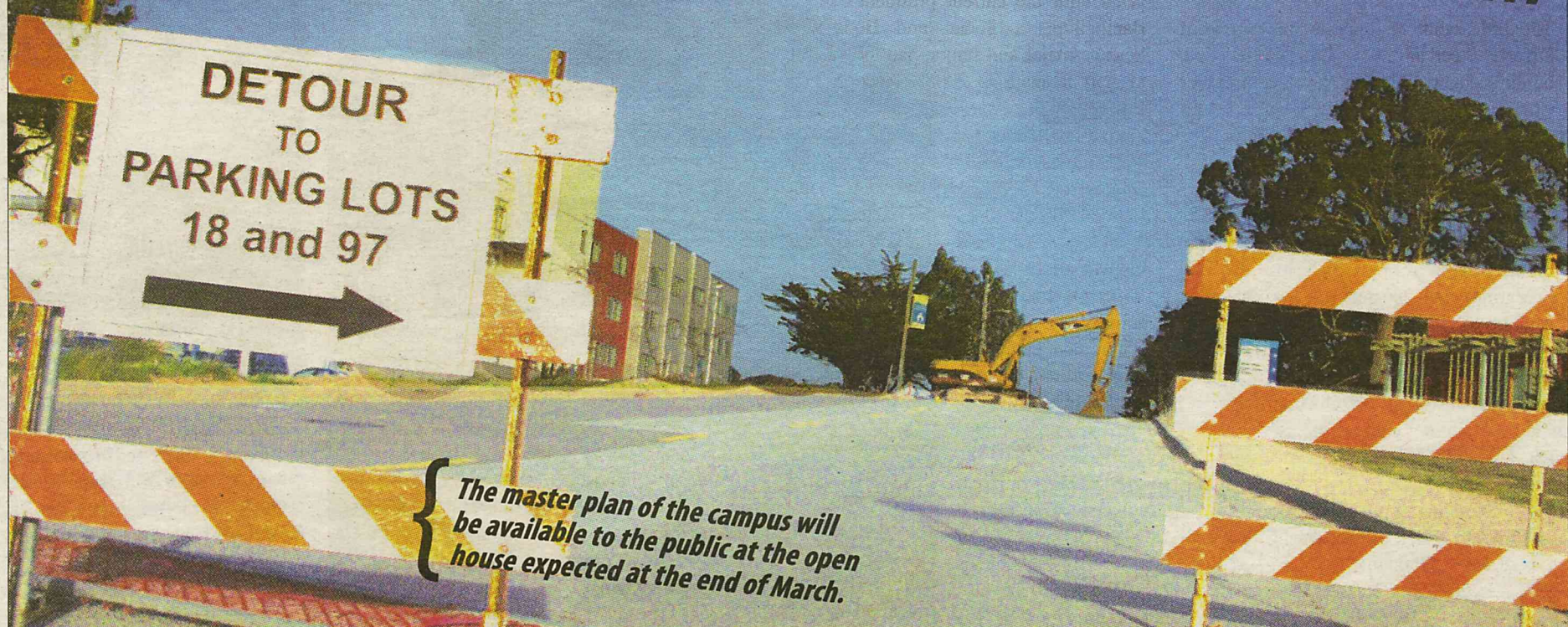


PHOTO BY MONICA GUZMAN

The master plan of the campus will be available to the public at the open house expected at the end of March.

Monica Guzman, Staff Reporter
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The fact that CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) is a fairly new and still growing school means that it will continue to experience many changes for the next several years, and many students have already noticed the ongoing construction on campus.

A resident of building 301 who asked to remain anonymous expressed his frustration with the noise of the construction on Inter-Garrison Road, which starts at about 7 a.m. and does not stop until 5 p.m.

"It's so hard to sleep and do homework with all the noise, sometimes I can't even hear my TV," the student said.

According to Kathleen White, director of Campus Planning and Development, Inter-Garrison Road should be open early next week. Unfortunately those affected by the Fifth Avenue construction will have to wait a little longer for silence due to a new project.

Inter-Garrison Road and Fifth Avenue have been undergoing an infrastructure project, which is now finished. Fifth Avenue will be closed the week of Mar. 10 in order for the Marina Costal Water district to install a recycling water line, and will continue to remain closed for a couple of weeks after the instillation. By the end of March all the streets are expected to be re-opened.

Another small project that will affect students is the repair of

the Athletic Center's Gymnasium, which plan to begin after the basketball season. The floors and bleachers of the gym will be ripped out and replaced with new ones, a project that should continue for weeks to come.

In the summer of 2008, it is expected that CSUMB will experience modifications on and around the Fifth Avenue area. Near the Fifth Avenue and Divarty Street intersection a round about will be built, while Fifth Avenue itself will also be widened in order to fit a landscaped median which, according to White, will have a "sense of arrival" (Fifth Avenue and A Street will still connect).

The closing of the Fifth Avenue entrance for the Science building (bldg. 53) parking lot is another

construction project students can look for. A second entrance to the parking lot has already been made from A Street. "This change should hopefully make the Fifth Avenue, A Street and Divarty Street intersection a little less awkward," White stated.

Some projects to be aware of in April are the paving of paths and sidewalks by the new library. The construction companies have already been asked to move any storage located around the new library in order to begin paving sidewalks. Among the plans included is the paving of the trail that runs behind the Teledramatic Arts and Technology building and the World Theater, transforming the trail into a "real path," said Deborah Anzini campus

development and operations administrative coordinator.

The master plan of the campus will be available to the public at the open house expected at the end of March. Planning and Development workers highly encourages students, staff and faculty to attend the open house.

"Everyone should know what the plan is and what's going on," said Anzini.

Anzini also added that the open house should answer many popular questions such as which buildings are to be demolished, when the library will be fully operational and where the new student center will be.

UPD Responds to Campus Safety Concerns

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The recent buzz about crime at CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) has left students finding it difficult to feel safe. Many CSUMB students have high concerns about becoming a victim of crime, and are questioning the extent authorities will go to protect them.

Riana Hardin, a Human Communication sophomore said, "the campus is safe, but it is not the safest it can be." Students like Hardin have agreed that the campus could make improvements in order for residents to feel safer, including simple enhancements, such as additional lighting and improved walkways.

Some students at CSUMB are uninformed about the different types of tools obtainable to them. When asked about the emergency call boxes or "blue lights," only a few students knew the purpose behind them or that they are even present here on this campus. Besides physical tools available in times of emergencies, students would like information and knowledge of their existence.

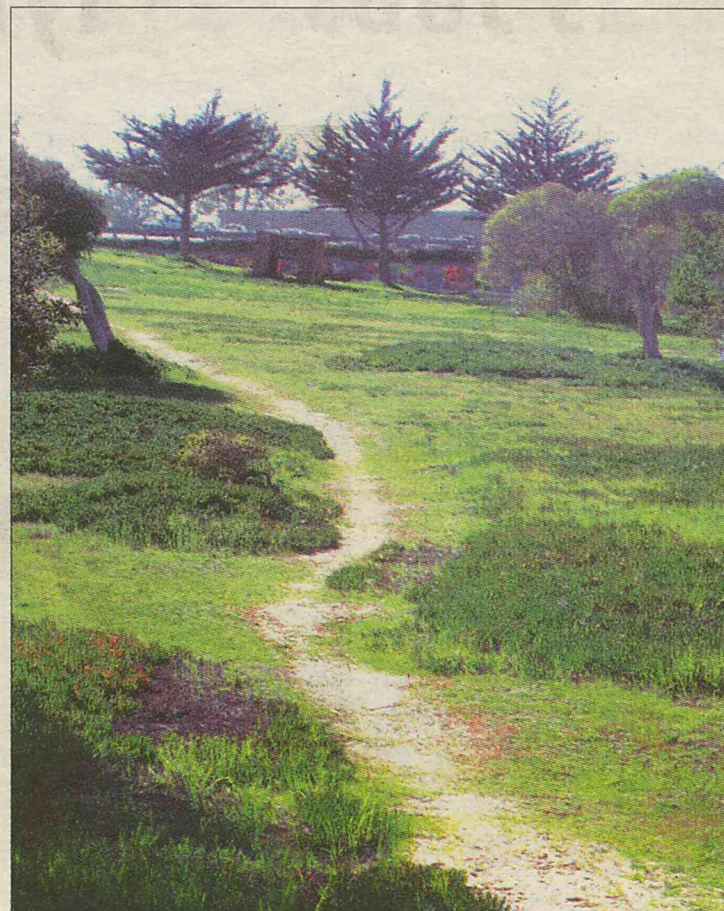
Global Studies Junior Theresa Eckert was one of the few students who knew what and where emergency call boxes are located, but she still believed that more information should be made available to students so that they are better prepared for any scenarios that come their way. According to Eckert, it would be pointless to provide resources of safety and not educate students on their function and how they can be accommodating. She also

suggested that one way to make students feel more comfortable is for campus officers to have greater presence on campus at any hour.

Although there have been many complaints, students of CSUMB might find it surprising that improvements for safety are actually in progress. "CSUMB is a safe campus," said Lieutenant Earl Lawson of the University Police Department (UPD) after hearing of students' safety concerns for this campus. Lawson also suggested crime on campus always occurs and it is up to students to be conscious and take responsibilities for their safety. Although the CSUMB campus is very different from other universities because it is small in size and number of students, it is vital for all students to take precautions. Lawson also explained that in time the CSUMB campus would be transformed into a "walking" campus.

Christina Molthen, Liberal Studies junior said, "yes, a walking campus would be a great idea from an environmental stand point, but it would not be that way from a safety point of view."

Lawson also shared that some plans for improvement are already in the making, such as the transformation of the path in the ice plant into an actual walkway leading to parking lot 28 (across from building 47 and next to the World Theater). Also in the making are plans for an additional "blue light" at the end of the parking lot for emergency circumstances, while additional plans to accommodate student



UPPER AND BOTTOM-LEFT PHOTOS BY LAURA NEWELL

needs are being discussed as well.

Officers are going out personally on different occasions to seek further safety enhancements, as well as testing out helpful tools such as the emergency call boxes located throughout the campus. Lawson wants the CSUMB student body to know that safety is a concern to the campus police and it is constantly on their minds as well.

Since students will eventually have to walk alone in the dark at some point in their college career, it is very important for the student body to know the precautions and tools to reach safety. The first line

for student defense is the emergency call box. While many students are not knowledgeable of the precise function or location of the blue lights, the emergency call box marked by a blue light is available for students in case of emergencies. To use the call box students simply need to push the button and the box automatically alerts authorities of your exact location.

Night Walk, where students will be escorted to their destination, offers additional assistance that students may find to be useful to their comfort level. It is available Monday through Friday from 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. by calling 831-582-3573.

PHOTO BY CLAIRE CROSBIE



Crime logs are also made public on the UPD homepage for everyone to stay alert. In the near future, new safety ideas such as, "Alertwave", a campus-wide public announcement system, are being installed as well.



On-Campus Jobs: Playing Hard to Get

Janelle Pelzel, Staff Reporter

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Finding an on-campus job is similar to a game of poker. A student, just like a poker player, needs to know when to fold 'em and when to go all in. Yet for students who have played the perfect hand with their on-campus job search, there has been little in return.

The beginning of an on-campus job search starts at the Career Development Office's (CDO) website, career.csUMB.edu. Students must register and upload their résumé before starting their search. The website warns that failure to read the instructions will lead to problems with the search and ultimately keeping a job. Amber Perez, Coordinator for the CDO said that "the most common problem that students have with the website is that they do not follow or even read the instructions." "[The CDO] provides step by step instructions with screen shots," said Perez.

Kayleigh Bodan, a junior majoring in Business found the new online system to be a more innovative way to apply for jobs. Bodan was able to apply to multiple jobs in no time at all. Katrice Miller, Events Coordinator for the CDO agrees with Bodan, stating the new online site really accelerates the process for all involved. Before the instatement of Otter Jobs, students were dependent on the CDO. Delayed by old fashion search methods and application processes. Now with the online

system students can search and apply from any computer 24 hours a day and the application goes straight to the employer.

Even with the updated online search students are still finding it difficult to get an on-campus job. According to Jayna Patel, a junior majoring in Human Communication (HCOM), jobs are snatched up fast. "A person literally has to submit their application the day the job is posted in order to get contacted and interviewed," said Patel. Bodan suggests that the prime time to start a job search is either at the end or the beginning of a semester, "[During these times] is when people leave their jobs, graduate, or get new schedules that open up opportunities."

For the few students that do land an on-campus job, the next step is filling out a new hire packet. Students can find the packet at the Campus Service Center (CSC), which is located in building 47. There are two types of packets available for new hires to fill out, State or Foundation. It is up to the student to find out from their employer which packet they need. Although the new hire packet is confusing it is mandatory since it includes tax and payroll information. Once the packet is filled out the new hire will need to bring the packet and their Social Security Card (SSC) to the CSC. Only the original SSC or a receipt from the SSC office will be accepted, the packet will not be processed until the original card is brought in.

The last and final step with an on-campus job is mastering payroll

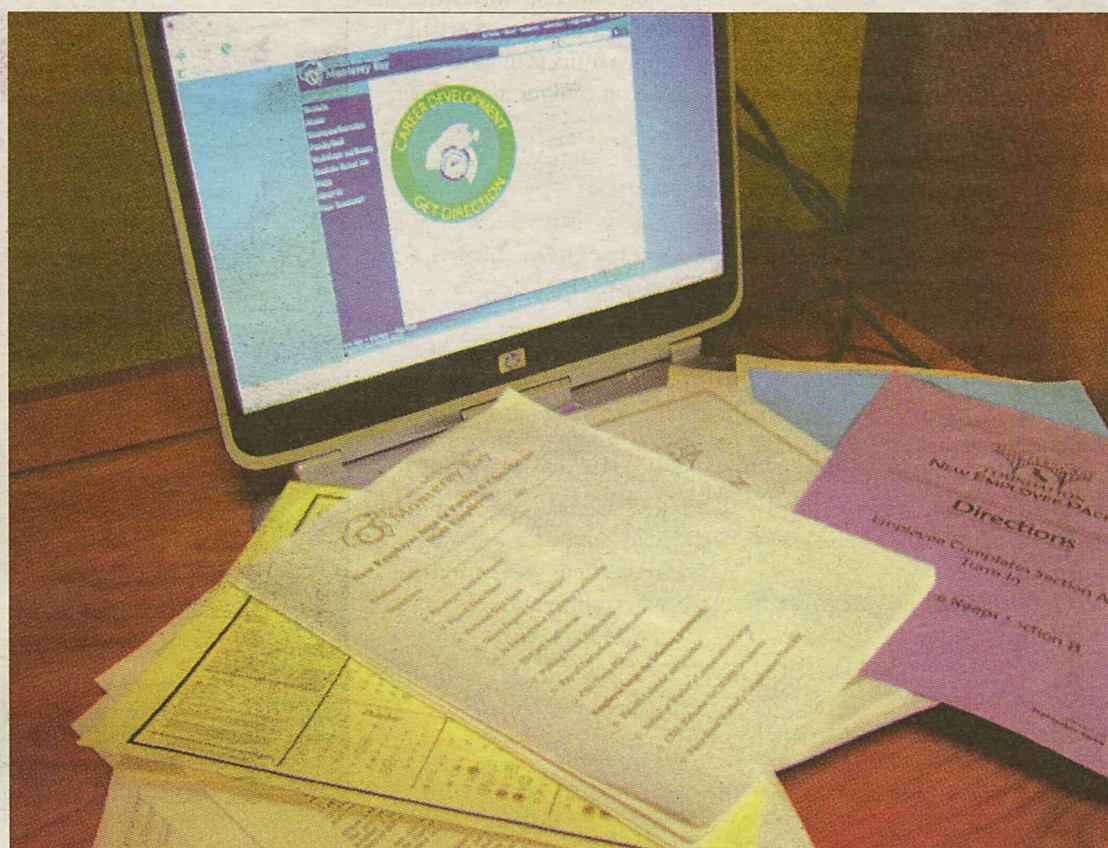


PHOTO BY JANELLE PELZEL

timesheets. State and foundation both use different methods for reporting time. DaShawna Bryant a junior majoring in Business expresses her feelings about the State timesheet, People Soft, stating "In the beginning I thought

that People Soft was the most ridiculous program ever created. But, I have been using the program for almost a year now, and I no longer have problems."

No matter whether a student is playing poker or looking for an

on-campus job, he or she needs to demonstrate great strategy and patience throughout the whole process.

"A person literally has to submit their application the day the job is posted in order to get contacted and interviewed."

JAYNA PATEL

California College Media Association

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Division: less-than-weekly

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Best Overall Design

First Place: The Otter Realm, California State University Monterey Bay

News Series

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Best News Feature

First Place: Lindsay Cesmat, Former Editor-in-Chief, The Otter Realm, California State University Monterey Bay

Second Place: Laura Newell, Editor-in-Chief, The Otter Realm, California State University Monterey Bay

Best A&E Story

Second Place: Ricky Wilsheimer, Assistant News Editor, The Otter Realm, California State University Monterey Bay

Best A&E Column

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Best News Photo

First Place: Patrick Makenen, Staff Reporter, The Otter Realm, California State University Monterey Bay

Feature Photo

First Place: Lindsay Cesmat, Former Editor-in-Chief, The Otter Realm, California State University Monterey Bay

Best Sports-Page Design

Third Place: Kate Kiechle, Online Editor, The Otter Realm, California State University Monterey Bay

Best Back-to-School Edition

First Place: The Otter Realm, California State University Monterey Bay

Scholarships 101: What needs to be done to get free money

Ricky Welshiemer, Assistant News Editor
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Students at CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) will be pleased to hear that there are several scholarships available to them. With the seemingly endless increases in tuition, free money seems like the best bet to pay for college.

According to Linda Lopez, a counselor for the Financial Aid Department, students have four choices when looking for available scholarships. The first choice is to visit the Financial Aid office,

located on the third floor building 47. The second option is to visit the Campus Service Center, located on the first floor of building 47, where students can find two binders filled with information on scholarships from external donors. The last two options for students are to visit the Financial Aid website at www.financialaid.csUMB.edu and to look on FirstClass under the folder for posted announcements on scholarships.

After students have found the scholarship that they would like

to apply for they have to do one of two things. If the scholarship is through CSUMB then the student needs to visit the Financial Aid Office, while if the scholarship is coming from a private donor then the student needs to browse the donor's website for instructions on how to apply.

According to Lopez, there are about 45 scholarships through CSUMB that are available to students. The scholarships award money ranging from \$100 to \$3000. The Tri-County Region

scholarship and the Yukon Clemence Chow scholarship are two popular scholarships for students from the tri-county area.

The California State University (CSU) Foundation announced on Feb. 6 the system-wide scholarships for the 2008-2009 academic year through an email sent to the student body of CSUMB. The scholarships range from \$1,100 to \$6000 and there are four scholarships available from the CSU Foundation. According to the website, applications should

be submitted to the Financial Aid office by April 4. More information on CSU Foundation scholarships can be found on the financial aid website under Types of Aid > Scholarships.

Lopez could not stress enough that the deadline for most of the CSUMB scholarships is May 1, so students need to begin as soon as possible. "Apply, don't discredit yourself," Lopez said. "Don't be the judge about whether or not you are eligible for scholarships. Apply for them."

Historic Golden State Theatre Rekindles Popularity

Jessica Diers, Staff Reporter
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History hides in plain sight of CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) students. In the center of downtown Monterey off of Alvarado Street stands the legendary Golden State Theater. Built in 1925, it is genuinely significant to various locals who have watched it evolve over the decades.

Plush red carpets line the entrance of the theater and lead into an auditorium, which is capable of holding 1,600 people. The Golden State was once the largest theatre between San Francisco and Los Angeles. In 1926, performers could entertain 25 percent of Monterey's population on its stage.

While once a symbol of beauty and elegance in the bay, the Golden State Theatre has seen a decline in attendance in recent years. In an effort to rekindle the romance hidden in its wings, management has begun to distinguish the

theater as a historical building, and hopes to catch the eyes of the Monterey youth.

The theater starts playing double feature films on weekends at around 7 p.m. or 8 p.m. for \$8 a ticket. Recently, the theater has played movies including "Moulin Rouge," "The Phantom of the Opera," "Grease" and "Saturday Night Fever." For the same price as a single movie, audiences can have double the features weekend evenings.

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays are reserved for concerts, occasionally including an orchestra. On Apr. 11-12 Zombie Voodoo Scream Party, a musical comedy will be playing.

Another aspect of the Golden State Theatre is that it houses a young nondenominational church called "Monterey Church." The Monterey Church awakens sleepy-eyed churchgoers on Sunday mornings by performing Christian rock. The music is a staple of the

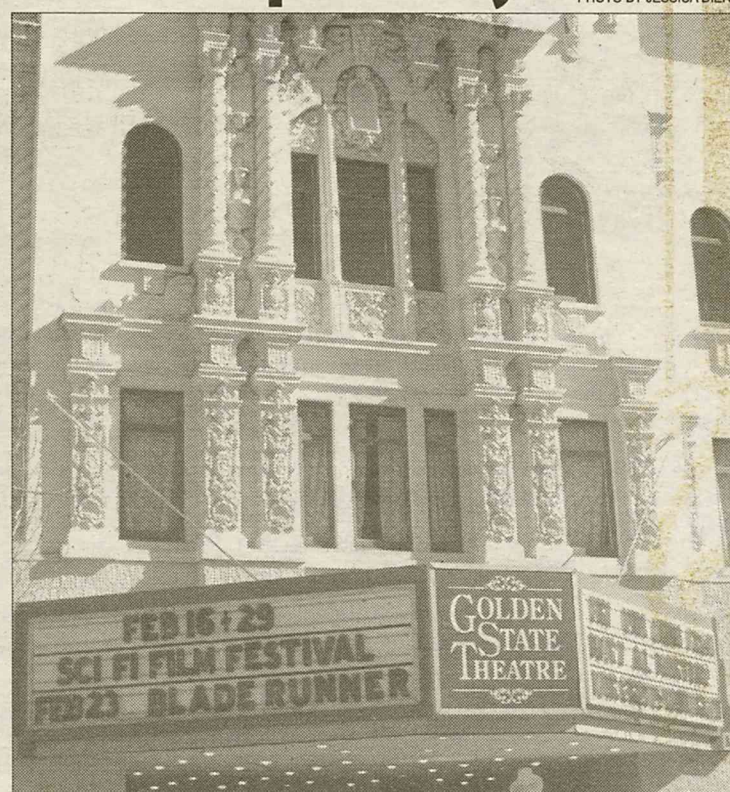
early morning activities beginning at 10:45 am. This is the first church to make the theatre their home.

Freshman Liberal Studies major, Caitie Wells works the front desk at the cinema. "It's time to get students involved in the Golden State Theatre because it is a vital part of Monterey, and getting students involved will keep it thriving," said Wells.

Wells said she began working for the theatre because of her passion for its history and movies in general. She continued that the theatre is an inexpensive date idea, and its historical walls could create a romantic getaway for students.

The Golden State Theatre has enabled concerts, orchestras and various films to be exclusively available to the residents of Monterey. This historic building stands firm, and after years of renovation and reconstruction, has remained loyal to Alvarado Street. It continues, waiting, craving and anticipating a vast influx of CSUMB's students and the general public.

PHOTO BY JESSICA DIERS



Tickets for concerts and information on upcoming events are available online at www.goldenstatetheatre.com.

Got questions about the Otter Realm?

email us at:
otterrealmeditors@csumb.edu

Cesar Chavez Day: Unique to CSUMB, Presidents' Day equally important

Destinie Schroff, Staff Reporter
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The Vision Statement at CSUMB states that the university is culturally diverse and serves the low-income and working class people of California.

Cesar Chavez was a Hispanic laborer and civil rights activist whose efforts eventually led to higher wages and improved safety rules for migrant farm workers. He and Dolores Huerta founded the National Farm Workers Association.

Petra Valenzuela of Academic Scheduling and Advising said that there are a specific number of faculty workdays, instructional days, and holidays which are mandated by the Chancellor's office and that start and end dates are determined examining factors such as the California Faculty Administration (CFA).

Valenzuela said "Cesar Chavez Day is an added state holiday we didn't have in the earlier years. We began observing Cesar Chavez Day in 2001. Veteran's Day used to be celebrated the day after Thanksgiving; this has now been mandated to be celebrated on Nov. 11."

At CSUMB, the presidents are honored in December for Abe Lincoln and Washington's birthdays.

Many students at CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) wondered why on Feb. 18, President's Day, school was not closed. What some students may not know, however, is that CSUMB gives students May 3 off, which is Cesar Chavez's birthday. This is a lesser known holiday, and not celebrated in many states; California is one of four. The question remains why CSUMB's campus has this day off as opposed to President's Day.

Some students, such as Sophomore Marco Antonio Acuedo, are unaware that this is going on at CSUMB. Acuedo thinks that "both holidays are important because you should respect the presidents and Cesar Chavez has done a lot," said Acuedo. "President's Day should be celebrated and so should Cesar Chavez's."

Liz Burklo, junior, was aware of the holidays CSUMB is closed, and said "both are important holidays. Cesar Chavez is important to the area and presidents obviously are important to the country." Acuedo and Burklo both agree school is off on Cesar Chavez day because of "the area" and the large Hispanic population in Monterey County.



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Beautification Plan Cleans Up Campus

Greg Tomascheski, Staff Reporter
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CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) is located in one of the most pristine parts of the California coast, but the campus and former army base's unique scenery hasn't always appealed to everyone. Recently some students at CSUMB have been taking action to improve the look and feel of the developing college campus.

Business sophomore and second year student Michael Arballo works with Associated Students as a Community Affairs Representative. In early February Arballo presented a beautification plan for the campus to CSUMB President Dianne Harris along with the Deans of various departments at the University.

Arballo said he had a friend who was at first interested in CSUMB but later deterred from the school due to the unsightliness of the campus. "Landscaping effects recruitment, retention and student morale," says Arballo, who looks forward to putting the plan into action.

The plan introduces new benches, tables, bike racks, plants, fire pits, and a uniform lighting system to the Main Quad, Sixth Ave. and other parts of campus. It also includes plans for further improvements to campus roads as well as the possibility of designating certain areas on campus for student art murals.

Arballo has been working in collaboration with Bob Brown, Director of Facilities Services and Operations at CSUMB.

Brown hopes the plan will create more places for students to socialize on campus. "We want to make it feel more like a college campus and less like a military base," said Brown.

Facilities Services and Operations at CSUMB is funding the project and

encourages student input on what improvements need to be made.

"We need more recycling bins," said Shae Olds, an Undeclared Freshman at CSUMB. "Our campus is focused on sustainability and recycling is the first step."

Brown made it clear that all the new additions will be in accordance with the campus' stance on sustainability. Benches being added are made of at least 70 percent recyclable material and the new rust proof trash cans are 100 percent recyclable material.

Arballo said the proposed improvements that are now taking effect are just the start of his vision for the campus. By the end of March students should begin noticing the impact of the beautification plan throughout the CSUMB campus.

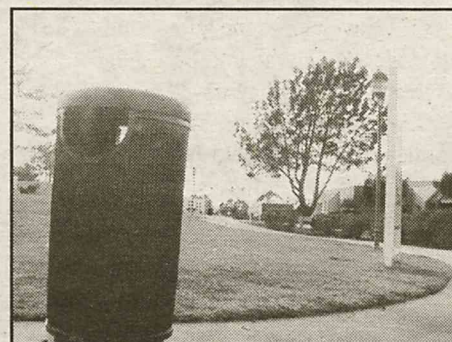
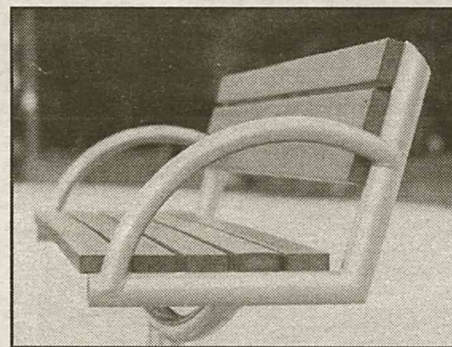


PHOTO BY GREG TOMASCHESKI



Sexual Healing Spring-Breakin' the Law

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It is that time of year again, when college students from all over the globe flock to the warmest, most breathtaking hotspots in order to party 'til they drop, which, from time to time leads to consequences that can't be solved with antibiotics.

For these people, spring break is a time when intoxication is high and clothing comes off (sometimes publicly).

Local, state, and federal laws vary on this subject, and for those venturing outside the U.S. the issue becomes even more complicated due to differences in language, legal systems, and cultural customs.

Whether one is flashing their "private parts" or just cannot wait to get to the bathroom, Spring Breakers in the U.S. run the risk of being charged with a misdemeanor, and possibly having to register as a sex offender.

Illustrating how vague and confusing the laws can be, California Penal Code, Section 314 states, "Every person who willfully and lewdly, either: 1. Exposes his person, or the private parts thereof, in any public place, or in any place where there are present other persons to be offended or annoyed thereby; or, 2. Procures, counsels, or assists any person so to expose himself or take part in any model artist exhibition, or to make any other exhibition of himself to public view, or the view of any number of persons, such as is offensive to decency, or is adapted to excite to vicious or lewd thoughts or acts, is guilty of a misdemeanor."

The code begins, "Every person who willfully and lewdly either: 1. Exposes his person, or the private parts thereof, in any public place..." Nowhere else in the code is there an explanation of what "private parts" or "person" means.

Merriam-Webster Online does not give any definition for "person" directly referring to a body part, however, it does define "private parts" as the "external genital and excretory organs."

So, that may be cleared up (even though excretory organs include skin, the liver, lungs and large intestine?), but the law goes on further to state that, "Every person who willfully and lewdly... 2. Procures, counsels, or assists any person..."

In other words, if one "obtains with particular care and effort" (as Merriam-Webster Online defines procure) any person, in order for them to expose themselves, they are guilty of a misdemeanor.

Screaming "Take it off!" or "Do it!" can be considered counseling, as well as assisting in a person in the act of disrobing.

The law also pays special attention to identifying the acts as "lewd," which begs the question, what acts are considered lewd? Surprisingly, public urination isn't.

According to California court documents, in January of 2003 David McDonald was detained by a police officer after being found publicly urinating in Berkeley. The officer had found cocaine on McDonald, and in order to get the evidence found during the detainment dismissed, McDonald's attorney challenged the court that public urination was not cause for the officer to detain him being that there is no law specifically against it. Judge David Krashna of Alameda County Superior Court found that while McDonald was not guilty of public indecency, he was guilty of littering and being a public nuisance.

OR [Human Interest]

Iraq War Soldier Reflects on Five Years of War

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This March marks the fifth year U.S. soldiers and politics have had influence in Iraq through war. To this day 3, 974 US military men and women have been killed in duty; the approximate number of students at CSUMB.

Starting from the first attack on U.S. soil in almost 16 years, a lot has changed since the government decided to invade Afghanistan, and then later Iraq. Operation Iraqi Freedom was enacted on Mar 19, 2003.

Jason Greene, now an active Marine, started his first job out of high school Sept. 10, 2001 on Capital Hill in Washington DC. The next day while raising the American flag, word got through that a plane had hit the Pentagon. He had to help evacuate everyone on the House floor, little did he know another plane was scheduled to hit his exact location, but had got detoured and crashed into a Pennsylvania field.

"I had every opportunity to be a writer and attend an Ivy

League school, but this event changed my mind about a lot of things and I knew I had to serve my country for my friends and family," Greene said.

He joined the Marines and spent nine months in Iraq starting in 2003. He worked on intelligence in the large city of Ramadi, which was over run with Al-Qaida members when he got there.

"Being stationed was as if time stood still. We were in this bubble and the rest of the world was flying by," Greene said. "It was hard being there especially when I found my wife had been cheating on me."

Greene is like a number of soldiers who have had one or more tours of duty in Iraq. The amount of work they do and the time spent away from loved ones often takes its toll. Many feel unnoticed when media bombards society with the stories of death, torture, and explosions.

"Depression definitely has an affect on the mission for everyone, but there is good being done. Few press agencies turn over the stories of the schools and hospitals being built or the kids that can now play again in the streets and not have to worry much of stray gunfire," said World Press reporter Sydney Kiplinger.

Going into year six, the future of the Iraq war can only be predicted. The November elections might give a new direction to the situation at hand. For people like Greene, being optimistic is the key.

"Iraq needs more stability in every way, what they are accomplishing now are just baby steps. There has been a lot of progress, but there is still a lot that needs to be done to get them back on their feet," said Greene.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY JASON GREENE

FEB 28-MAR 12

WHAT YOU OTTER DO!

**MON 3/24
REGISTER
TO VOTE!**

10 AM-4 PM
MONDAY-
THURSDAY
AT CSUMB'S
UNIVERSITY
CENTER.

THURS 3/13 THE TRUTH ABOUT SUICIDE FILM

7-8:30PM CSUMB PERSONAL
GROWTH AND COUNSELING
CENTER. FREE.

In support of National Suicide
Prevention week, CSUMB's personal
Growth and Counseling Center
presents film *The Truth About Suicide:
Real Stories of Depression in College*.
A discussion of the movie will follow.

FRI 3/14 CENTRAL COAST WRITING CONTEST

The Central Coast Writer's branch
of the California Writer's Club is
currently accepting submissions for
its Spring Writing Contest. Cash will
be awarded for first place poetry and
short story winners. Submissions
must be postmarked by March
31. For rules and more info visit
centralcoastwriters.org.

SAT 3/15 SPRING BREAK OFFICIALLY BEGINS

Sleep in, lounge around and hit the
beach until classes resume again on
Monday 3/24.

MON 3/17 SPLASH ZONE RE-OPENS AT MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM

10-6PM \$22.95 STUDENTS,
\$24.95 GENERAL, \$15.95
CHILDREN.

Today, the aquarium welcomes
back popular exhibit with some new
additions.

THURS 3/20 KRONOS QUARTET AT THE WORLD THEATRE

7:30-9:30PM CSUMB WORLD
THEATRE. \$10-\$25.

Part of the performing arts series, this
four-member ensemble perform on
violin, viola and cello

SAT 3/22 PINNACLES ALL- DAY-HIKE

Hike through this local wildflower
paradise and observe beautiful birds in
their habitat. This trip will also take hikers
through the caves along the Pinnacles
trails. For more info call (831) 582-4644
or e-mail adventure@csumb.edu

SUN 3/23 EASTER SCAVENGER HUNT AT MARINA FARMERS MARKET

10-2PM AT THE MARINA
VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER,
215 RESERVATION ROAD

Be a little kid again and scavenge
through a maze of fresh produce and
friendly people to find prizes. For
more info call (831) 384-6961

TUES 3/25 "THE BIG READ"

10:30AM CSUMB UNIVERSITY
CENTER

Part of the month-long program
that urges people to read literature,
CSUMB participates in "The Big
Read" with a panel of faculty speakers
discussing the topic "Can We Be
Trusted With Books?" This year's
selected book is Fahrenheit 451.

WED 3/26 COAST BIKE RIDE

12-2PM FREE.

Ride 29 miles along the Monterey Bay
coastal bike trail that stretches from
Castroville to the peninsula and parts
of Pebble Beach. Bikes and helmets
provided. Reservation required. Call
(831) 582-4644 or email Adventure@csumb.edu

OR [Arts and Entertainment]

Campus-Loved Band BREAKup

Greg Tomascheski, Staff Reporter

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In Aug. 2003, students at Live Oak High School in Morgan Hill, California, started a band called Brea. To the dismay of many of its fans, after four and a half years the band called it quits in February.

According to former band member and current CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) a fourth year Teledramatic Art and Technologies Major, Josh White, the name 'Brea' was suggested by White's high school friends who had visited the town of Brea in Orange County, California.

While Brea was still performing, the band members were lead vocalist Leia Layus, guitarists Josh White and Scott Schulze, and drummer Hollis Browne.

"There were artistic differences and people wanting to play different music," says White, "but we're all cool with each other."

Dedicated fan and CSUMB student Louie Okamoto says he was "one of the unofficially designated 'front-row'ers" at local Brea shows. "Each member of the band

had his/her own flare," says Okamoto. "If I were to make a soundtrack of my early college years, Brea songs like 'So Long to Streetlights', '65 Miles to Freedom', 'Bitter Sweet', 'Hold On', and 'Quick Fix' would definitely be included."

The band's first tour began at CSUMB in the Black Box Cabaret on Apr. 20, 2006. Brea's 5-day California tour took the band to venues in Gilroy, Long Beach, Riverside and San Diego.

On Dec. 7, 2006 Brea performed again for CSUMB students in the University Center Ballroom with their friends RX Bandits and The Expendables. "Playing at CSUMB, the shows were amazing," said drummer Hollis Brown, "We always had people supporting us and there were always people wanting to hang out."

Brea gives thanks to platinum selling bassist and recording artist Polo Jones (from the Italian band Zuc'chero) for helping them produce both of their EPs. Jones also assisted in booking Brea shows at larger venues, eventually leading to Brea's opening performance in Sept. 2006 for bands Rob Zombie and Godsmack at Sleep Train Amphitheatre in Marysville, CA.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BREAMUSIC.COM

All of the former members of Brea are now taking the break as an opportunity to experiment with new sounds and different styles of music. "I learned the most about myself while I was with Brea," said lead singer Layus, "as a musician and as a person."

"I've spent many nights up-front, squished between the stage," says Brea fan and CSUMB student Sam Peterson, "I'll miss Brea, but would like to wish the members the best of luck."



Two Remaining in the President's Speakers Series

Noelle Blair, Staff Reporter

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The CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) President's Speakers Series continues this semester with an esteemed scholar in gender studies and an award-winning author.

There are a total of four planned speakers for the President's Speakers Series, two of which happened in February. The next two speakers will be Dr. Sharon Hays on Mar. 13 and Sherman Alexie on Apr. 15. Dr. Robert Curry and Thomas DeWolf spoke on Feb. 6 and 20.

"The president speaker's series brings to campus intellectual and creative thinkers

so that the university can situate the conversations that are current in all of the different places so that the community members see that 'Oh, my university is the informational hub,'" said Dean Renee Curry.

Dr. Sharon Hays, a professor of contemporary gender studies at University of Southern California, will speak about single mothers on welfare. Her speech titled "Flat Broke With Children" will focus on governmental treatment of single women.

According to the CSUMB website, "Hays' subjects tell stories of the extreme poverty, broken families, sexual abuse, homelessness, and the lengths to which

they go in attempts to juggle multiple part-time low-paying jobs in order to feed and support their children." Dr. Hays' speech will take place on March 13. This event is free to the public although reservations are recommended.

Sherman Alexie, a writer and comedian from Seattle Washington, will speak on April 15. The winner for the National Book Award for "The Absolute True Diary of a Part-Time Indian", Alexie's speech is titled "Without Reservations: An Urban Indian's Comic, Poetic & Highly Irreverent Look at the World".

According to Alexie's official website (fallsapart.com), his first book of short

stories, "The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven," was published in 1993. He is also an award-winning poet.

"He uses laughter to remind us that deep inside the human, the human knows they are only here for a short period of time and some of the predicaments there put in are just absurd. The urge to laugh at the absurdity, even in our own predicaments, looms large in his writings," Dean Curry said.

Alexie's speech will be free to the public as well and reservations can be placed starting March 14.

Both events will take place at the CSUMB World Theatre at 7 p.m.

Icy to Hot, Spring Break Adventures

Jessica Diers, Staff Reporter
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Crashing waves echo in ears while toes are submerged deep into soft, fine grained sand. The sun beats vibrantly upon sunscreen drenched skin and amuses itself intently over the ocean. The air lingers calm and still as pina colodas or ice-cold lemonades are sipped on eagerly and eyes wander intently over a jam-packed beach. A variety of ages cover the premises and most heads are laid back comfortably upon damp towels.

The ability to lie casually on

a sandy beach, while glaring squinty-eyed up at the sun can cure semester blues. However, not everyone opts for the stereotypical Spring Break getaway.

Undeclared freshman Faith Lerma, claimed that basking in the sun is not the only way to enjoy a week free of worry. "I find my escape bound deep within the snow covered mountains of Colorado or Utah, snowboarding down a mountain is really the only place I feel completely free from the grips of our demanding educational system," said Lerma.

If students are looking to enjoy more of a below-zero spring break then the mountains of Colorado

are an option. Aspen is a ritzy ski resort which is well known to most travelers, but if students are looking to save a little money and still ride some fresh powder, ski resorts such as Breckenridge or Keystone are inexpensive mountains to visit.

Math major and freshman Emily Hendersen is planning to hop into a friends Honda Civic and drive. "I'm just ready for a thrill; I want to go beach searching down the coast and truly experience the beauty within our state," said Hendersen.

Students can drive about six hours south to Los Angeles' famous Venice beach, stopping by Santa Barbra beach on their

way. Students can spend a couple days soaking up some vitamin E and then maybe even drive into Hollywood to experience China Town or take a detour down Sunset Boulevard.

For those with hotter tastes, taking a trip to the desert to visit "Sin City" can be entertaining for those who love bright lights and the thrill of gambling. An eight hour drive from Monterey, Las Vegas offers the hot weather, a sure alternative to Monterey.

Whether it is a 104 degree hot tub tucked in the mountains of Colorado or the 104 degree desert of Nevada, that sounds more exciting, the 10-day long break from school

offers enough time for a variety of extracurricular fun.

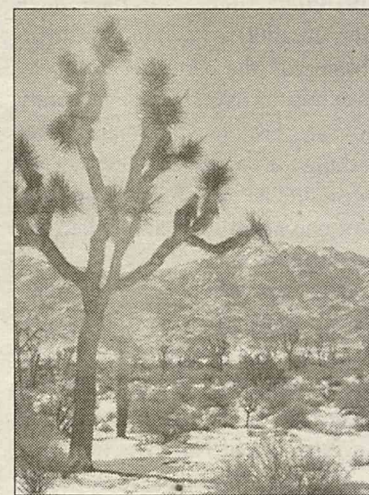


PHOTO PROVIDED

Hip-Hop Course Dances its Way into CSUMB

Myra Prado, Staff Reporter
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In the upcoming Fall 2008 semester the department of Humanities and Communication (HCOM) at CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) will be introducing HCOM 226, a new class called Afro Cuba Hip Hop: Music and Dance in the Black Atlantic. The class will be taught by Dr. Umi Vaughan, the new assistant professor of African Studies for the HCOM department.

This new class will teach students about the roots of music and dance styles from the African Diaspora. Vaughan foresees the class being separated into two parts beginning with the classroom portion, which would be learning the history of dances from different countries

including Cuba, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Mexico and the United States. Cecilia Ortega, third year Liberal Studies (LS) major says, "this course would give students the opportunity to actively engage in cultural diversity that is rarely studied but is all around us."

Vaughan will be teaching about how different types of dance have been influenced by social movements in each country. The second portion of the class would be the performing aspect where students would learn different dance styles like Salsa, Rumba, Samba and Hip Hop.

Offering more than just dance moves, the class would also be teaching different styles of performing like call and response which is when one person calls or sings out a phrase and a group

of people responds in unison and total participation where there is no audience, everyone presents and participates to make the event come alive. HCOM 226 will cover the connections between Latino and African cultures including dance similarities and how they share some of the same cultural roots. Vaughan says he also wants to "promote unity by showing how different races and cultures came together to create the music/dance styles."

Vaughan encourages all students to consider this class because it is not a requirement to be a good dancer for success, instead the class is about participating and learning. He says, "I am excited to teach Afro Cuba Hip Hop to give a more complete understanding of the

meaning/purpose of music/dance in the lives of black communities from different parts of the world. Music/dance is fun and exciting, but also shaped by history, and used to fulfill specific needs."

Vaughan was a performer of poetry and dance as a solo artist in the San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival. In his many travels to Mexico, Brazil, Zimbabwe and other places Vaughan has wrote his dissertation on Cuba in comparison to other parts of the world. His experience and class objectives will show students that understanding and knowledge can be obtained through reading and participating in this case through dance and history. Angel Camacho, HCOM major in her fourth year said that this class sounds interesting because she

loves to dance and learning the history especially of funk would encourage her to stay an extra semester to attend this class.

The new Afro Cuba Hip-Hop class will incorporate the theory and practice of dance and culture especially in cultures that have influences of hip-hop and the African Diaspora. As an added incentive, HCOM 226 class will fulfill two university learning requirements (URL) for literature and popular culture and creative artistic expression. Details of the class's date and time will be posted in the next semester HCOM class schedule.

OR [Arts and Entertainment]

The Green Fairy Flies Back to the US

Ricky Welshiemer, Staff Reporter
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Walking into Lallapalooza Restaurant (La La's) in downtown Monterey, the bartender was busy mixing drinks for everybody sitting around the bar. After asking the bartender if they served absinthe, he gave back a confused yet energized look and called the manager over.

The manager grabbed a dark bottle and fancy glass, and began to pour. Once the glass was full he lit the liquor on fire and allowed it to burn before pouring it into a second glass. The sizzling drink set a stream of fire down ones throat.

Immediately following the shot the manager pointed to another glass, which had the burned off fumes trapped from the shot. He stuck a straw underneath the glass, which allowed for the participant to suck out the burned fumes. The partaker pulled away fast coughing and choking. The manager continued to pour out four more shots, then hid the bottle behind the bar.

After being banned in 1912, absinthe is now making a comeback in the U.S. The legalization of absinthe started this year and has had people of all ages very excited.

CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) senior Business major Kenna Frazier was eager and thrilled when she found out that La La's served absinthe. However, after trying the green drink she quickly found out that it was not what she expected. "It tasted like heated up Jager [meister] and Goldschlager mixed together," said Frazier. She said taking the shot was not all that

bad, but sucking the fumes through the straw was awful. "I felt as if I had smoked 100 cigarettes after sucking the fumes from the glass," said Frazier.

There are many different ways of drinking absinthe. One of the ways is to drink it the way in which La La's offers, or another more traditional way, is to pour the absinthe into a glass and take a specially designed slotted spoon (commonly called an absinthe spoon) and place a sugar cube on top of it. Slowly pour ice-cold water on to the cube until it has dissolved into the glass. Once done the absinthe will turn from green to a foamy white.

Absinthe, also known as the "Green Fairy", is high proof distilled liquor derived from wormwood. According to greendevil.com, absinthe has an "extremely high alcohol content, ranging from 50 percent to 75 percent but usually around 60 percent in average."

In the 1970s it was believed that Thujone, a chemical found in absinthe, was a hallucinogen related to THC, a chemical found in marijuana. While the thujone to THC link has been invalidated, it has been yet to be proved whether or not absinthe actually causes hallucinations.

Currently, absinthe cannot be found in the local market. The drink can be found online at several different websites, including bevmo.com. According to Stephanie Metzler, Human Communications junior and waitress at Lallapalooza Restaurant, a shot of absinthe is \$10.



A glass of Absinthe and an absinthe spoon.

PHOTO BY ERIC LITTON

Otter Waves

Baseball

2-29 @ Sonoma State Lost 0-10
3-1 @ Sonoma State Lost 7-8, Lost 5-11
3-2 @ Sonoma State Lost 2-6
3-4 @ University of Nevada Lost 7-24, Lost 0-16
3-7 @ San Francisco State Lost 4-16
3-8 vs San Francisco State Won 5-4, Won 6-5
3-9 @ San Francisco State Won 8-4
3-14 @ CSU Stanislaus

3-15 vs CSU Stanislaus
3-16 @ CSU Stanislaus
3-20 @ Chico State
3-21 @ Chico State
3-22 @ Chico State
3-28 @ CSU Los Angeles

Softball

2-29 @ Chico State Won 6-5, Lost 1-2
3-1 @ Chico State Won 1-0, Lost 1-3
3-7 @ CSU San Bernadino Won 5-2, Lost 7-8

3-8 @ CSU San Bernadino Won 6-5, Lost 1-5
3-14 Chico State Tournament
3-20 vs Humboldt State
3-21 vs Humboldt State
3-22 vs Humboldt State
3-26 vs Western Oregon
3-28 Tournament of Champions

Men's Basketball

2-27 vs San Francisco State Won 87-75
2-28 vs UC San Diego Won 84-66
3-4 CSU Dominguez Hills (Round 1 CCAA Playoffs) Lost 53-56

Women's Basketball

2-27 vs San Francisco State Lost

79-95
2-28 vs UC San Diego Lost 50-74

Water Polo

3-1 UC Santa Cruz Slugfest Tournament team posts 2-2 record
3-4 vs University of Notre Dame Won 11-5
3-6 @ CSU Bakersfield Lost 10-13
3-7 Cal Lutheran Spring Water Polo Tournament team posts 6-0 record
3-15 vs Concordia University
3-15 vs Cal State East Bay
3-27 vs Hartwick University

Men's Golf

2-27 @ CSU Bakersfield Spring Invitational team finishes in 7th

place
3-9 @ Notre Dame de Namur Invitational
3-14 vs US Naval Academy
3-17 @ CSU Bakersfield Spring Invitational

Women's Golf

2-24 @ St. Mary's Invitational team finishes in 2nd place
3-9 @ Notre Dame de Namur Invitational
3-16 Lady Otter Invitational
3-23 @ Grand Canyon Spring Invitational

Health Hints

Getting in Spring Shape

Brennan Phelan, Staff Reporter
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Spring break is around the corner, a time of year that tends to make us more conscious of our bodies. Women talk about getting in shape for "bathing suit season," and the days are getting longer and warmer giving us more time to get out and get active. Lucky for us, the CSUMB campus offers many opportunities to work out and get in shape. There are a variety of things that students can do to stay active without getting bored with a workout routine.

The campus gym can provide you with basic exercise equipment like treadmills, stair steppers and stationary bikes. This makes it convenient for students to get 30 minutes a day of aerobic activity, as recommended by the American College of Sports Medicine. The gym also has weight machines and free weights, which should be incorporated into your workouts at least two days a week. Drop-in fitness classes are offered throughout the week in building 93, providing fun ways to break a sweat and meet new people. Classes like step-aerobics, spin and yoga are available and free for CSUMB students. The schedule is available on the Otter Sports Center website (sports.csUMB.edu), under the "drop-in fitness" link.

For those who prefer to be outside, there are many opportunities on and

off campus to get active. The bike trail along Highway 1 is a great place to go for a scenic bike ride or run as it travels along the peninsula from Marina through Lover's Point and beyond. The many hiking and mountain biking trails on the backside of Fort Ord also provide opportunity to get out in nature while burning calories and having fun.

The campus pool is another outdoor, free resource for students with open swim from noon-2 p.m. and 4:30-6 p.m. on weekdays. The heated pool is also open to students on weekends from 1-4 p.m. Swimming is a high calorie burning activity that is easy on your joints and good for people with injuries that prevent them from running or playing certain sports.

We should all be making physical activity and proper nutrition a part of our lives year round, but if getting ready for "bathing suit season" is your motivation then now is a great time to start taking care of your health. Strive to get at least 30 minutes of physical activity every day. To avoid getting bored or losing motivation, mix it up with fitness classes, exploring the outdoors, and going to the gym. Have fun with your workouts and remember that the ultimate goal should be having a healthy body, not the body of a Victoria's Secret model!

A Pitcher Worth a Thousand Words

Blake Northey, Staff Reporter
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CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) women's softball pitcher Noemi Torres, better known as "Homie," is hitting the sweet spot this spring season. Fresh out of Watsonville, California, this tremendous young talent is at the top of her game. She is ranked as the top pitcher in the California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA).

She said she has had a glove on her hand since the age of four and it is obvious that her early start playing ball has paid off. Torres, a freshman Biology major, played on the Watsonville High School softball team prior to her admission to CSUMB. This year marks her first college experience playing softball and to be ranked as the CCAA top pitcher is a stunning achievement for a first year ballplayer. When asked about her success on the Otter team, Torres was very modest in her response. "I'm just the pitcher." In her humble manner she also mentioned that everyone on the team works hard to earn their spot. Torres said, "We all push each other to

play better, we are a close team."

Meagan Luna, a returning senior Human Communications major, had more to say about "Homie's" skills on the mound. Luna said, "She has great game time composure for a freshman." Luna also said she is impressed with Homie's "mental game."

Erica Wacker, also known as "E," is a Human Communications senior, and she is excited that this is the first season the CSUMB Otters softball team is eligible to make it to the playoffs. "We are going all the way," said Wacker. Even though the team has a lot of freshmen, the way things are shaping up, it could be tough to stop this team from achieving their goal of making it to the CCAA playoffs.

"We have a good team this year," said Channing Peebles, a freshman

Kinesiology major. This young and gifted team has big plans for the rest of the season. One of the goals of the team is to "win the conference this year," said senior Homa Shafii, an Integrated Special Studies major.

Coaches for this goal-oriented Otters team include Head Softball Coach Drea Kenney and assistant coaches, Nicole Deatherage and Lindsay Schutzler.

The CSUMB Otter softball team is currently third in the standings, but they are right behind second ranked San Bernardino. Currently Humboldt State is ranked first. The Otters are scheduled to play Humboldt on Mar. 20, 21, and 22 in Seaside. The Otters are looking to reverse their ranking with Torres on the mound and with the rest of the Otters playing well, the team knows that victory is within reach.



PHOTOS BY BLAKE NORTHEY

Green Machine Takeover

Hayley Alaniz, Staff Reporter
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With the CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) men's basketball team having plenty of success this season, one specific cheering group that has made itself known this year is the Green Machine. Seen throughout the stands, visions in bright green shirts,

this cheering squad has been one of the two well-known student cheering groups to support their CSUMB athletic teams, especially the men's basketball team.

Along with the other student cheering group, the Blue Crue, the Green Machine has become part of the crowd seen at the men's basketball games supporting their fellow Otters. Even though the two groups are focused on providing support for the team, they display different colors and are organized quite differently. The Blue Crue is a group students can join for the price of \$10, granting them a shirt, reduced prices on concession items and the chance to win contests and prizes.

The Green Machine is a group of students who were originally close friends and have now branched out to other students. As stated by one of the co-founders, Dillon Margis, a sophomore Psychology major, the Green Machine enjoys cheering louder and using more vulgarity, even if it risks getting them escorted from the event. Despite their differences, these two groups are not rivals, both groups are working side by side.

Margis, along with Ellis Bertschi, a sophomore Teledramatic Arts and Technology (TAT) major, are the two founders of the Green Machine. "Ellis and I started up the Green Machine soon after the Blue Crue," stated Margis.

According to Margis, this student based cheering squad is focused on getting more rowdy and the goal is to bring out students who may not usually show up to sporting events and have them cheer for CSUMB.

"We do not compete with the Blue Crue. It is a combined effort between the two groups at every game," said Bertschi. He expressed that the Green Machine has been going strong this year and has been present at the men's basketball games for approximately one month.

Dylan Sunn, a sophomore music and performing arts major (MPA) is a recruiting officer for the Green Machie. "We are true die hard fans. All of our members are into

the game and yelling their hearts out. [In the] Green Machine, all you have to do is wear a green shirt and yell your heart out," said Sunn.

"We want nothing more in the world than for CSUMB's reputation as a school and a victorious underdog to grow bigger and stronger," said Margis. "We will continue to exist throughout our time here at CSUMB, and hopefully some other kids will keep it going after we eventually graduate."

To find contact information about the Green Machine, visit the group's Facebook page.

Senior Legacies Leave the Court

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This year, senior night has been a memorable one for CSU Monterey Bay's (CSUMB) men and women's basketball teams. The purpose of senior night is to recognize the athletes who are no longer going to be playing their sport at the seasons end. This year the final regular season game took place at the Kelp Bed, where the seniors were introduced in front of their fans.

The women's basketball team

ended their season with a loss to UC San Diego 74-50. Alma Lopez, a guard and Liberal Studies (LS) senior led the team with 13 points and nine rebounds, though the Otters were not able to pull out a victory despite hard work from their seniors. This year there are four seniors leaving the women's basketball team; three of whom are starters.

Lopez was the starting point guard for the Otters. She has often brought a much-needed spark to both offensive and defensive sides of the ball for the Lady Otters. Lopez finished 15 in scoring in the California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) conference with 11.9 points per game, 12 in three pointers per game with 1.3, second in assists per game with 4.15, second in steals with 2.11 per game and 11 in defensive rebounds with 4.33 a game.

Sabrina Jenkins is a Teledramatic Arts and Technology (TAT) student, as well as a defensive specialist for the Lady Otters. Jenkins led

the team in field goal percentage shooting .516 on the season. She plans to pursue a career in media after she graduates next spring. "My fondest memories playing for the team have been the friendships and bonds I have with my teammates off the court," said Jenkins.

Krista Herr, a Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) alumni came back to play for the team. Herr came in 13 in rebounding in the CCAA with 6.1 per game and ninth in defensive rebounding with 4.41 per game.

Britnea Moore, a Human Communications (HCOM) major will be leaving as the all time leading scorer for the Lady Otters. This year, Moore was the third highest scorer on the team with 8.1 points per game. She also came in fourth in free throw percentage with .748 and first in three-point percentage with .400.

The men's basketball team has been able to make an astounding run in the second half of the season, beating seven teams in a row and

finishing the regular season 11-9 in conference play. In their final regular season game the men's basketball team beat UCSD 84-66 at the Kelp Bed in front of a large crowd on senior night. The men's basketball team has three players leaving the team after this season.

Stephen Becker, a HCOM major has been with the team for four years and is now finishing his athletic career with CSUMB. When Becker graduates in the fall of 2008, he hopes to get a good job in southern California. Despite leaving the team, basketball is still on his mind; "I've considered coaching a lot this year, I cannot picture myself being away from this game," said Becker.

Juston Willis, a Business (BUS) major has been an important player coming off the bench for much of the season. Willis went 10 of 15 from the field with a total of 24 points to help the Otters get a home game in the playoffs.

DShon Cannon, a TAT major and guard for the Otters has been

able to create fast break points and sink three-pointers with a consistent shot all year long. Known for his speed, quickness and intensity on the court, Cannon has become one of the better players in the CCAA. Cannon is fifth in scoring with 16 points per game, 11 in field goal percentage with .502, fourth in assists with 4.31 per game, eighth in free throw percentage with .773 and 11 in steals with 1.35 a game.

"I learned here at CSUMB was that you can overcome any obstacle if you work hard and put your heart into it," said Cannon.

Stolen Equipment Upsets Disc Golfers

Monica Guzman, Staff Reporter

MONICA_GUZMAN@CSUMB.EDU

With the Otter Open on its way, the CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Disc Golf club ran into a huge obstacle when they found out that two of their baskets had been stolen.

Baskets 12 and 18 of the Oaks course, one of the two courses on campus, were reported missing on Feb. 18 by the Disc Golf president Kenny Allison. According to the police report the baskets had been cut off with a pipe cutter.

It is suspected that the baskets were stolen sometime the night of Feb. 17 and were discovered missing at about 11 a.m. on Feb. 18 when the disc golf coach Merle Witvoet had last checked the course. Due to lack of investigative leads the case was closed and without anyone to prosecute, the club has to find other means for coming up with the money.

According to Coach Witvoet, who has been volunteering with the club for ten years, the club is extremely upset with the situation. Not only is the club upset but so is the community disc golf club the Monterey Stinging Jellies. "They have put so much time and money into the courses," said disc golfer John Martin, a third year undecided student at CSUMB.

One of the great advantages and disadvantages of the courses, according to Allison, is that there is such easy access to the courses from the parking lots surrounding them. The club has noticed that since the theft, campus police have been patrolling the courses more often.

Things began to look a little brighter for the club when the Disc Golf Association (DGA) helped by providing temporary baskets which could be wheeled into place for the tournament. By being able to continue with the Otter Open, the club was able to raise money for new baskets by receiving donations and raffling off items.



PHOTOS BY MONICA GUZMAN

One of the raffles was a "basket toss game" where participants were charged a small fee to play for a chance at winning portable target baskets. These baskets along with other items were provided by the DGA which has always been a great resource to the club.

Most of the money that was raised during the Otter Open will be used to pay off the course but at the tournament an anonymous person donated \$350, enough to purchase one of the two new targets needed.

Not only is the cost for new baskets setting the club back financially but also setting back coach Witvoet's dream of the making the courses world class courses. One of the expenses that will help in turning this dream into a reality is to install rubber pads that will mark where to throw for each target.

Both the disc golf courses are very community based leaving many disc golfers including Martin questioning why someone would have even thought of stealing

the baskets. "What's sad about the situation is that the baskets probably got dumped somewhere," stated Martin

The club appreciates all the help they have been receiving and Coach Witvoet reminds everyone, "Go out and play Disc Golf, most fun wins."

For those interested in donating, contact the club at discgolf@csumb.edu.

Otters Drown in Playoffs

Evan Fitzgerald, Staff Reporter

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Despite a nearly sellout crowd the Otters were not able to finish their last home game of the season with a win, falling to CSU Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) 56-53 at the Kelp Bed on March 4.

It was a playoff atmosphere at the Kelp Bed, and the crowd was able to get into the game early. From the beginning it was a close game, with many lead changes throughout the first half. Neither team was able to

achieve a huge advantage, though the Otters were able to hang in the game despite not hitting their three point shots in the beginning minutes. Juston Willis, a senior and Business major had 10 of his game leading 16 points in the first half and the score was tied 29-29 at the break.

The second half started much like the first, neither team able to obtain an advantage, the crowd backing the Otters all the way. The Otters played their hardest against a larger team with several players taller than the five on the floor from the Otters. Due to several

missed calls and turnovers in the final minutes, CSUDH was able to pull away and win the game 56-53.

"I feel like they gave it all they had," said Lewis Hall, a Sophomore Psychology major. "They should have given me the striped shirt and let me ref because I could have done way better."

This ends a chapter in the history of the men's basketball program in its first year of California Collegiate Athletic Association eligibility. After going on a winning streak they were able to make it to the



CSUMB basketball player scores at a recent game

PHOTO BY JANELLE PELZEL

playoffs in the first year it was possible. With the season finished this was the last game that will be played in the gym this season, as the floor and bleachers are going

to be replaced.

For more information about Otter basketball visit: otterathletics.com.



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VS VS NEITHER

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When I sit down to write my piles of essays I always find myself looking at my top friends bulletins and new pictures from last weekend's parties on their uniquely designed pages. Unlike homework, Myspace can hold my attention and entertainment for hours. Few things on the internet can give the instant gratification of "new messages," "new comments," "new friend requests," and the ever glorious, "new picture comments." Let's be honest with ourselves, who doesn't love that "you're hott" comment on your latest Myspace-posed headshot? And how did our parents ever let anyone know what was going on with their lives without bulletins? Not to mention surveys, which are a cult culture of their own.

Facebook is annoying and a major invasion of privacy. I don't care if Corey added three friends today and "is no longer listed as single." It is aggravating to be overloaded with random friends telling me to complete a survey asking what Power Ranger, flower, or kiss I am only to be told "To see your results, send to 20 friends!"

And Myspace has one thing Facebook will always be lacking- Tom. No one cares who invented Facebook. Tom is the original Myspace celebrity and has shown how Myspace can lead to real careers. Facebook could never launch Tila Tequilla into a bi-sexual love show on MTV.

Now I think I'll go post a bulletin...

Facebook is the gateway into a new life for college students. For me, Facebook is like walking on the beach without shoes on and actually being able to feel the sand between my toes. It could also be compared to waking up in the morning to the overwhelming smell of pancakes, eggs, and bacon. Facebook is our generation's new essence of life. It offers such things as online flirting called poking, lovability quizzes, event invitations, top ten friends lists, private messaging, and an "about me" column. Perks such as these make Facebook a great escape from reality for busy college students. We have begun to thrive off of Facebook and it continues to play an imperative part of our young and careless lives. However, a similar but less important web site called MySpace.com is lurking cautiously. It is prowling our beloved Facebook in hopes of someday taking its place. MySpace does not facilitate a trace of a flirtatious or fun experience, basically its lame. MySpace is like waking up in the morning with the flu and having to stay in bed all day, not because it is fun or exciting, but because you have to. Therefore, I encourage you to erase your MySpace account, realize it is petty and jump on the bandwagon. Find your crush on Facebook and give him or her a little poke!

In this day and age, MySpace and Facebook are a lot like opinions, everyone has one. They are easy to join, all it takes are some borderline provocative photos, a hit song to play whenever your page is opened, and you are on the way to joining the flock.

Everyone has their reasons for contributing to this epidemic. Keeping up with old friends is the number one excuse for having a MySpace or Facebook, but that is massively misleading. "MySpying on my ex" seems much more accurate. I cannot decide if MySpace and Facebook are a fantastic way to advertise products and businesses; or a wonderful way to degrade oneself, but either way, MySpace and Facebook rank right down there with the rest of the filth you can find on the internet.

I know I don't want to be part of such a huge cyber predator attraction. It is scary how much personal information is posted on MySpace and Facebook, and what is even more terrifying is who's reading it. Also, MySpace and Facebook are a terrible way for social interaction, but a great way to leave your ex-boyfriend (b/f) or girlfriend (g/f) a nasty message because he/she wants to "MySpace" other people.

These social networks take away from real interaction with real people; and they give off a false sense of community and friendship. There isn't any way you can choose friends from pictures and a background song. Friendship is not a click away.

People who use MySpace and Facebook falsify who they really are on their pages. In reality, these social networks are people's alternate personas, based on how they want to be perceived by other users. If you are looking for romance sign up for E Harmony, but remember, relationships are only as good as what you put into them. Social networks are more drama than they are worth, but some people do have a good time scanning MySpace and Facebook just to look up who's been messaging their significant other. Obviously, these networks are a great resource to find out if you are being cheated on.

Who needs trust when you can track everyone and everything your b/f or g/f has been doing. Furthermore, the photos that are posted go from personal to incriminating because everyone can see them, which means teachers, bosses, parents, and peers. It seems like everyone has become a virtual sheep, mindlessly following the flock without looking out for themselves. People have been fired over MySpace and Facebook pictures, and relationships, friendships, and lives have been ruined. In spite of the massive damage these networks have done, people still post pictures and messages like it is nobody's business. But then, this opinion would not be possible without you, the loyal MySpace and Facebook sheep.



Editorial Policy:

The Otter Realm is a bi-monthly student publication produced by the Otter Realm club and HCOM 389. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Otter Realm, CSUMB administration, faculty, staff or college policy.

The Otter Realm serves two purposes: it is a training lab for students who wish to learn journalism skills, and it is a forum of free expression of campus issues and news. The Otter Realm Editorial Board will determine what to print on these pages. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit for libel, space or clarity.

om·buds [äm-bu-dz]

1. One that investigates reported complaints (as from students or consumers), reports findings, and helps to achieve equitable settlements.

Dear Otter Nation,

On Mar. 1 the Otter Realm was presented with several awards at the California College Media Association (CCMA) award ceremony. Including second place for general excellence and first place for best overall design. Several staff writers from the academic year 2007 were also honored for their articles in the Otter Realm. For a full list of the awards that were given at CCMA see page 6 of the Otter Realm or visit their website at calcollegemedia.org.

In the last edition of the Otter Realm there were a couple issues that were brought up by students that had been interviewed for the paper. A student had been misquoted in the section People On Campus (POC), and felt that what was written could have an effect on his job.

The Otter Realm would like to apologize for its misrepresentation of the quote in the last POC. The reporter said it simply was a miscommunication between the interviewer and interviewee. There will be a corrected version of the quote in the section Otter Oops.

It was also brought to the Otter Realm's attention that there was inaccurate information in the story "AS Members Step Down," by Patrick Makenen. Emily Oberhiem did not resign from her duties as a part of the student government. Emily said that she is "still working long and hard at her job."

Every Monday following the release of the paper, the Otter Realm staff and editors get together and critique the paper. When we find a mistake we post it in the Otter Oops section. The Otter Oops can be found in the opinion section of every edition of the paper.

If you as a reader ever find a mistake or feel as if you had been misquoted please let the staff of the Otter Realm know by sending us an email at otterrealmeditors@CSUMB.EDU. The Otter Realm works hard to put together a paper that represents the campus community, and we want to make sure everybody is represented correctly.

Sincerely, Ricky Welshiemer, Assistant News Editor

Otter Oops

Page 3: In Editorial Policy, Otter Realm is a bi-weekly newspaper not bi-monthly.

Page 7: We regret the error of Emily Oberheim's AS position status. In the story "AS Members Step Down" by Patrick Makenen it was stated that Oberheim stepped down from her position of Personal Chair of the Associated Students when she did not step down.

Page 8: In "A Potential Future for Local Students," Target and Safeway did not give donations.

Page 11: We would like to give credit to Greg Tomascheski for his work in "Media Misrepresents Scientology Protester" article.

Page 12: In Events Calendar, 3/9 is spring forward; clocks are set forward not backward.

Page 16: In "A Student with a Mission" photo, Tekus is not on a missionary trip, he is visiting Nara, Japan.

Page 18: "Otters Cheer with the Blue Crue" photo by Janelle Pelzel not Evan Fitzgerald.

Page 20: Person On Campus, Ben Hoedt, TAT junior said, "I would download movies because I enjoy watching a wide variety of films."

Exploring Laura... Accepting Change and Overcoming Challenges

Laura Newell, Editor-in-Chief

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When people walk down the street and see a man in a wheelchair wheeling along the sidewalk the normal reaction is first not to stare and then to feel sorry for him. We feel sorry because that person cannot walk and do all of the things that we can do. Then we feel thankful. We feel thankful that we do not have to suffer the way that they have to suffer. Then, we feel bad for thinking these thoughts at all because he is probably not suffering as much as we think. All of these thoughts cross our mind and leave in the 30 seconds it takes to walk by that man wheeling along the sidewalk.

I realized that I stop and think of these concerns because I am afraid of being immobile, I am afraid of not being able to be me. If I lost my arms I would not be able to lead the same life I lead today.

Is what I fear my immobility or a change in my surroundings?

Recently I had the traumatic, but invigorating, experience of fracturing both of my elbows and losing all motion in both of my arms. I was reliant on other people to do everyday things that I used to take for granted. I needed someone to brush my teeth, feed me meals, get me dressed and even shower. I was keeping my head held high, but at the same time drowning in self-fear. I feared that I would not be the same. I feared that I was angering and annoying everyone around me by asking for help. I feared that people pitied me. I feared that people would never understand my pain.

After a week of fear, I needed a new plan. I had both arms in splints and needed to get active with my school work and my job. I learned to use the motion of my legs and head to survive. I learned to feed myself when I was alone at my house. I learned to embrace my gift of flexibility to change my habits.

To eat, I placed food on my knee and bent down. To drink I used long straws that reached my mouth. To complete work in and out of classrooms and my workplace, I typed everything on my computer rather than writing with paper and a pen. To wash myself I used a wet washcloth and warm water at the sink. For everything else, I asked for help with a smile on my face.

This experience was so life changing for me I did not know where to go next. I felt sympathy for those who lived with changes that affected their entire lives. I learned of the fear that first overcomes people, then the victory that leads to a change. I learned that I do not have to fear change, because change is essential to humankind. Change is what makes us stronger.

So the next time you see that man wheeling in his wheelchair understand that those people who have permanent immobility adapt and learn to change, and that it is not so much that they have a disability but that they just do things differently than others.

Being immobile is a fear that is hidden deep within every person; not being able to hug your three year old niece running at you with a smile, not being able to walk into a room and sit on the couch in one swift motion, not being able to drive yourself to work when you are running late; we all worry about change. It is courage that we embrace when times get rough that will make change remarkable. It is the understanding that change will only make us stronger that will allow us to never be immobile.

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Person on Campus

What would make you feel safer on campus?



"Owning a gun or a sword."

-Kris Kritscher Junior
HCOM



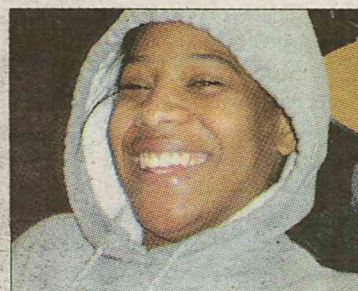
"Having a sense of knowing you'll be protected."

-Jesus L. Lopez Freshman
ISSM



"Brock Samson."

-Brennan Mitchell
Junior MPA



"If there were policeman on bikes."

-Denise Range Freshman
BUS

Pipers Predictions

by Piper Waters

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan.19)

It would be nice if the world were just black and white, however this isn't the case. You need to find a way to deal with all this grey area occurring in your life now. Think of it as multiple answers rather than just one...the outcome seems promising.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb.18)

As time goes forth we start to realize who and what's important to us. Unfortunately it's usually not until time is running out when this becomes clear to you. Make sure you let the ones close to you know how you truly feel...it's nice to be reminded every once and awhile.

Pieces (Feb. 19-Mar.20)

You are going to need a thick skin to get through these next couple of weeks. Try and keep your emotions under control right now. By keeping your cool you will understand the power you have within....remember you can't control others, only yourself.

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Take advantage of this incredible weather and use the outdoors to your advantage, and by becoming more active you will open your eyes to different types of activities....get involved.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

You don't need to have all the answers right now. Although it makes life easier when we can see where we're headed, right now it's ok to delve into the unknown...you could end up exactly where you wanted to be.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

The well known saying is "If you love it let it go, if it comes back it's true" This doesn't necessarily

mean a person but can also refer to any relationship that is a bit rocky right now. If you hold on too tight...it will slip right out of your hands.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

If you want something, go get it. Keep this go-getter attitude for the coming weeks. You are going to be tempted to fall into your old ways of staying put...GO FOR IT!

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Why stop now when you can see the finish line? You're almost there, you can almost smell victory. This isn't the time to half-ass it, give it your all...or give up!

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

The other day I had forgot I put my car in neutral and as the light turned green I wasn't going anywhere. Get out of neutral and put your gears in drive...once you "shift" the road is all yours.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Your charm is a key element to your persona. However, imagine if that was suddenly taken away from you, could you survive? Try allowing other strong traits of yours to shine through...you will impress yourself.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Breathe. I promise this too shall pass. Remembering that along with bad times comes amazing times...keep looking up.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Itching to travel? It's almost about that time; you're at the home stretch. Finish us this last semester strong and you'll be ready...to spread your wings.

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	4				6			3
					4	9		6
			7	2		1		4
				1				5
	1	6				7		
7			3					9

SUDOKU

su·do·ku [sōō-dō'kōō]

Each Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.

